

# News Release



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT:

Paul Hammond

(916) 445-1705

## Railroad Museum To Be Open Special Hours During January 19 Olympic Torch “Big Celebration”

The 2002 Winter Olympic Torch will arrive in Sacramento late in the afternoon on Saturday, January 19, 2002. The torch will make its way through the streets of Sacramento, passing many landmark locations including Sutter’s Fort State Historic Park and the California State Capitol and completing its tour of the city in Old Sacramento. In conjunction with this historic event, the California State Railroad Museum and the Discovery Museum History Center will have **special hours** this evening.

The entire community is invited to welcome the torch’s arrival and to witness the lighting of the cauldron at “the big celebration” in Old Sacramento. Centered around the outdoor “1849 Scene” area at Old Sacramento’s northern end, the **festivities begin at 6 p.m.** this evening adjacent to the California State Railroad Museum. Planned activities include music, live entertainment, food, exhibits, official merchandise sales and children’s activities. Come share the excitement—admission is free!

As a special opportunity, the California State Railroad Museum and the Discovery Museum History Center (both immediately adjacent to the 1849 Scene) will offer **free admission** to the general public from 5:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. this evening only. Guests are invited to tour North America’s finest and most-visited railroad museum, and also to step into the adjacent Discovery Museum History Center for a look at Sacramento’s fascinating past, while they await arrival of the Olympic Torch.

Torchbearers have been chosen from throughout the City of Sacramento and local communities. All were nominated by family members, friends and colleagues who wrote a 50 to 100 word essay, explaining how the nominee embodied the Olympic Spirit and provided inspiration to others and to their community. **For more details** about “The Big Celebration,” plus the exact routing of the 2002 Winter Olympic Torch Relay through the streets of Sacramento, visit [www.cityofsacramento.org/parksandrecreation/otr](http://www.cityofsacramento.org/parksandrecreation/otr).

*The City of Sacramento’s Department of Parks and Recreation is coordinating the Winter Olympic Torch Relay Celebration with the assistance of the Sacramento Convention and Visitors Bureau, Sacramento Sports Commission, Downtown Sacramento Partnership, Sacramento*

*Metro Chamber of Commerce, Sacramento Coca-Cola Bottling Company, Local Chevrolet Dealerships, KCRA-TV Channel 3, California State Railroad Museum and Foundation, Discovery Museum History Center, California State Parks, and Old Sacramento Management.*

*Operated by California State Parks with assistance from the CSRM Foundation, the California State Railroad Museum is open daily from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. except Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year's Day. Widely regarded as North America's finest and most-visited interpretive railroad museum, the complex of facilities includes the 100,000-square foot Museum of Railroad History plus the reconstructed Central Pacific Railroad Passenger Station and Freight Depot, 1849 Eagle Theatre, and Big Four and Dingley Spice Mill commercial buildings in Old Sacramento. For 24-hour information, call (916) 445-6645 or visit [www.californiastaterailroadmuseum.org](http://www.californiastaterailroadmuseum.org).*

###